



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAN AUGUSTINE MAN CONVICTED OF DISTRIBUTING COCAINE

(Lufkin, TX) A 32-year-old San Augustine man has been convicted of possession with intent to distribute over 650 grams of "crack" and powder cocaine. A federal jury convicted **JEROME CUTWRIGHT** late yesterday on two counts of possessing with the intent to distribute cocaine and "crack" cocaine.

According to information presented in court, Cutwright was suspected of being a major source of supply of illegal narcotics in San Augustine, Texas. On March 21, 2005, San Augustine Sheriff's deputies and Texas Department of Public Safety Narcotics officers executed a search warrant on Cutwright's residence revealing over 650 grams of cocaine, nearly two and one half pounds of marijuana, and \$9,460.00 cash, which was seized as proceeds from the sale of illegal narcotics.

The guilty verdict was returned late yesterday afternoon after a two day trial before Chief United States District Judge Thad Heartfield. The jury deliberated about two hours before reaching their verdict.

Cutwright faces up to forty years in federal prison on each count and a fine of up to \$2 million. A sentencing date has not been set.

The case was investigated by the San Augustine Sheriff's Office and the Texas Department of Public Safety - Narcotics Division and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Reynaldo P. Morin.

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